



# SITUATION REPORT #129



**INCIDENT NAME:** Walla Walla County COVID-19 UNIFIED COMMAND

DATE: December 3, 2020	TIME: 14:00 Information is updated at 2pm daily	MISSION #20-0265
------------------------	----------------------------------------------------	------------------

**AFFECTED AREA:** Walla Walla, Washington

**CURRENT SITUATION:** COVID-19 Surveillance, Monitoring & Case Investigation/Contact Tracing

<b>2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak (COVID-19) Walla Walla County Residents - Regional Healthcare by Providence St. Mary Medical Center</b>	<b>Number</b>
Confirmed Cases	2388
Recovered	2007
Deaths	21
<b>2019 Novel Coronavirus Outbreak (COVID-19) Out-of-County Residents – Regional Healthcare by Providence St. Mary Medical Center</b>	
Confirmed Cases	6
<b>Tests Submitted –</b>	<b>Number</b>
Total Negative Results (Walla Walla County) unable to update at DOH	30,095
<b>Confirmed Cases by Community of Residence</b>	<b>Number</b>
Burbank/Wallula	134
College Place	356
Dixie	8
Prescott	49
Touchet/Lowden	41
Waitsburg	28
Walla Walla	1772
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2388</b>



# SITUATION REPORT #129



Confirmed Cases by Age	Number
Under 20	314
20-39	941
40-59	691
60-79	324
Over 80	118
Confirmed Cases by Gender	Number
Female	1123
Male	1265
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>2388</b>

## REGION 8 PHEPR:

Region 8 PHEPR staff is supporting WWCDCH from their EOC. Next call scheduled for 12/9 3:00-4:00

## COMMUNITY MITIGATION MEASURES:

DCH in contact with positive cases, all close contacts on home isolation under daily symptom watch.

- DCH working with businesses and Long-term Care facilities on containment of outbreaks which includes testing, contact tracing and educational information
- DCH and Providence agreement signed to provide isolation and quarantine facilities
- DCH has 800 doses of annual Flu Vaccine for all residents
- DCH attending Covid Vaccine planning meetings with DOH and Providence
- DCH 'Health Space' and CREST training completed for health data management
- DCH and BMAC continue to coordinate community mask distributions
- DCH increased staff capacity for case monitoring and contact tracing to be in compliance with variance applications
- DCH continues work surrounding behavioral health (mental health, substance use) and the coronavirus
- Providence Urgent Care Drive-thru testing operational for those with between 7am-6pm daily
- Walla Walla County Unified Command holding Key Stakeholder calls at 9 am Monday and Thursday
- DCH CD call flu, respiratory illness, COVID-19; next call will be Tuesday, December 8<sup>th</sup>
- DCH attending M-W-F DOH-Epi to Epi call for LHJ's
- DCH WIC Nutrition benefits continuing to ensure food security for families; completed by telephone consulting and online benefit issuance

## EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT:

- The Walla Walla County Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has downgraded to Level 2, Limited Operations, effective 05/28/2020 as of 0800.



# SITUATION REPORT #129



- As of 03/24/2020 Walla Walla County Emergency Management continues to work remotely in order to limit exposure that might affect 911 and dispatch personnel who share the facility.
- The Walla Walla County Commissioners signed a Declaration of Emergency, effective 3/13/20 at 2 PM.
- The City of Walla Walla signed a Declaration of Emergency, effective 3/17/20, extended on 4/8/20.
- The City of College Place signed a Declaration of Emergency, effective 3/17/20, extended 6/9/20.
- The City of Waitsburg signed a Declaration of Emergency, effective 3/18/20.
- The Port of Walla Walla signed a Declaration of Emergency, effective 3/19/20, extended 5/28/20.
- The City of Prescott signed a Declaration of Emergency Effective 3/19/20.
- Walla Walla County remains in modified operations/access during regular business to certain county departments.
- Remains in a Unified Command with Walla Walla County Department of Community Health. Unified Command was established 3/13/20 at 2 PM.
- Washington State Emergency Management is now requesting that all Tier 1 priorities be consolidated into a single order. Long Term Care facilities are now considered to be part of the Tier 1 priority, with further changes expected. Tier 2-4 priorities will be consolidated in a 2<sup>nd</sup> request. Next request period will be for the week beginning 12/7/2020
- PPE tier allocation is changed beginning June 5, 2020, to allow Tier 1 requestors to build on hand supplies to levels sufficient for 14-21 days.

## 1. Outstanding Resource Requests

WA State Tracking Number	Request Date	Agency	Current Status
WA-2020113015669	11/30/20	WWCEM Bulk BYD N95 Request	Accepted

**December 3, 2020**

## 2. Effective Strategies and Successes *(annotations for successes through the end of November archived to abbreviate this report)*

- DCH/PSMMC flu vaccine clinic at First Fruits; 700 doses administered.
- PSMMC/EMS planning effort to provide rapid testing to first responder community.
- Businesses have benefited from funding that has been distributed.

## 3. Risks and challenges

- COVID-19 Cases
  - Total Confirmed Cases: 2336
  - ❖ Recovered: 1937



# SITUATION REPORT #129

❖ Active: 360

○ Home Isolation: 341

❖ Hospitalized: 22 (19 are Walla Walla County residents, 3 are Out of County residents, Deaths: 21

▪ Washington State Penitentiary (included in numbers above): 123 active incarcerated and 3 active staff

▪ Positivity rate for last week 11/7 – 11/13 15%

- Concern for rapid spread at congregated facilities.
- Cross-jurisdictional coordination with Umatilla County, OR, Benton/Franklin County, WA.
- Need to continue to monitor for behavioral health issues.
- Case investigation slowed by contacts not answering phone calls from DCH.
- Cold/flu season; respiratory symptoms may be confused with COVID and require workers to stay home.
- Highly complicated processes for storage and administration of Pfizer COVID vaccine.
- 'COVID fatigue' is very high with additional challenges presented by winter; more time inside, less daylight and sunshine, etc. Need to focus on community resilience.
- People moving indoors due to cold; more close contacts.
- Face coverings not being worn in private despite the fact that 95% report wearing masks when in public.
- Increased pressure on systems due to spike in case numbers. Increasing risk across communities.
- People are still reporting to work with mild symptoms, or with symptomatic family members.
- Gatherings continue in spite of recommendations by DCH not to gather.
- Still seeing longer COVID testing turnaround times.
- Logistics of administering COVID vaccine to home-bound population.
- Case investigation has been hampered by contacts not being cooperative with contact tracing team.

## 4. Future operational plans (24, 48, and 72 hours out)

- Emergency Management is activated at **Level 2 – Limited Operations** (virtual, with no face-to-face contact).
- WWEM acting as liaison to Washington National Guard (WNG).
- WWEM continued collection of donations.
- Coordination and communication with Unified Area Command State Emergency Operations Center (UAC SEOC). Unified Command SEOC conference call on Thursdays.
- Monitor WebEOC Resource Tracker for delivery of supplies from Washington State to Walla Walla County.
- WWEM submission of new resource requests on WebEOC.
- WWEM distribution of resources.
- DCH weekend staffing.
- Weekly ESF6 Human Services weekly conference calls.
- PSMMC maintaining daily sit reports.
- EMS providers tracking PPE use with CDC PPE Burn Rate Calculator.
- Continue work with the media.
- DCH case investigation/contact tracing of positive cases.
- Reopening Business Workgroup & Business/Economy meeting every Thursday, though no meeting today.
- DCH and PSMMC are continuing to work with Washington State Department of Corrections for cases at Washington State Penitentiary. WNG is providing testing support.
- Washington National Guard deployed to assist with testing at LTC facility to meet CMS requirements.



# SITUATION REPORT #129

- LTC facilities to continue to test based on CMS requirements to test if positivity rate is over 5%. Currently testing twice weekly. DCH working with LTC facilities to provide test kits and swabs.
- PSMMC Urgent Care drive through testing operating with extended hours, 7AM – 6 PM.
- DCH messaging emphasizing the importance of social distancing, masking, limiting gatherings.
- DOH COVID Vaccine Planning Partners meeting on Friday, December 4th.
- PSMMC/DCH Vaccine Planning meeting Monday, December 7<sup>th</sup>.
- DOH Vaccine Planning Partner call Tuesday, December 15<sup>th</sup>.
- DCH will be following new CDC guidelines for quarantine: quarantine period can end after 10 days (without testing and without symptoms), can end after 7-day period with a test. DCH will update their website with this information.
- PSMMC is now offering rapid testing for first responders through the Urgent Care drive through or College Place Express Care. Asymptomatic testing is available through drive through only.
- WWEM anticipates delivery of 24K BYD N95 respirators this week (1/4 of the population-based allocation for Walla Walla by SEOC).
- DCH ordered 20K pediatric masks (free source); expected mid-December.
- PSMMC continues to look at their staffing and surge capacity plans.
- VAMC working on vaccine planning for their veterans. Would like to integrate with community planning effort. Noted that the LTC facilities should have already signed up with vendors (CVS/Walgreens) for COVID vaccine. Strike teams will go to facilities. Omnicare is in communications with LTC facilities, but we lack a timeline.
- Immigrant Relief Fund Deadline is Dec. 6th.  
[https://www.immigrantreliefwa.org/?utm\\_medium=email&utm\\_source=govdelivery](https://www.immigrantreliefwa.org/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery)
- Whitman College is planning for mid-January opening.
- Chamber of Commerce will be holding two sessions on Thursday, December 17<sup>th</sup> with legislative representatives to discuss business concerns.
- Valley Transit has been working with the FTA on prioritization for transit workers for the vaccine. (Would like verification that they are in Phase 2 of the distribution plan.)

**Prepared By:** Liz Jessee & Patrick Purcell, Emergency Management Coordinator, 509-524-2901 or [ppurcell@co.walla-walla.wa.us](mailto:ppurcell@co.walla-walla.wa.us)

## COMMUNICATIONS:

- Social Media/PIO/Media Requests: [eocpio@co.walla-walla.wa.us](mailto:eocpio@co.walla-walla.wa.us)

**ANTICIPATED NEEDS:** Contact tracing and disease investigation

## WHERE TO FIND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

### Phone Assistance:

- Washington State Department of Health: [800-525-0127](tel:800-525-0127), press #



# SITUATION REPORT #129

- Walla Walla County Community Health Information line: [509-524-2647](tel:509-524-2647)

## Web Site Information:

- HOLIDAYS: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/holidays.html>
- DCH <https://www.covidwwc.com/walla-walla-county>
- OHA Emerging Respiratory Disease page: [www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus](http://www.healthoregon.org/coronavirus)
- Washington Department of Health: <https://www.doh.wa.gov/Emergencies/Coronavirus>
- CDC COVID-19 page: <https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/index.html>
- CDC travel notice: <https://wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel/notices>
- WHO page: <https://www.who.int/westernpacific/emergencies/novel-coronavirus>

**INCIDENT INFORMATION:** [eocpio@co.walla-walla.wa.us](mailto:eocpio@co.walla-walla.wa.us) 509-524-2916

**PREPARED BY:** Kara Breymeyer, Jodi Ferguson, Local Emergency Preparedness Coordinator, WWCDCH – 509-524-2657 [jferguson@co.walla-walla.wa.us](mailto:jferguson@co.walla-walla.wa.us)

**DISTRIBUTED TO:** Walla Walla County BOCC & Clerk of the Board; Providence St. Mary Medical Center Staff, Region 8 PHEPR-RERC, Benton-Franklin Health District, Umatilla Co. LHJ Director, Walla Walla County EMD and EMS & MPD, WA DOH Duty Officer, WA DOH LOFR; Klickitat LERC; Yakima LERC; Benton-Franklin LERC; Columbia Co. Director; REDi HCC, Columbia Co. LHJ, City of Walla Walla, City of College Place, City of Waitsburg, McMorris-Rogers Rep. Port of Walla Walla, and Health Office